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## Book Review

*The Western Journal of Medicine does not review all books sent by publishers, although information about new books received is printed elsewhere in the journal as space permits. Prices quoted are those given by the publishers.*

### Interventional Radiology

Edited by Wilfrido R. Castañeda-Zuñiga, MD, MSc, Professor of Radiology, University of Minnesota Hospital and Clinic, and S. Murthy Tadavarthy, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor of Radiology, University of Minnesota Hospital and Clinic, and Chief, Section of Cardiovascular Interventional Radiology, Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis. Williams & Wilkins, 428 E Preston St, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1988. 855 pages, \$149.95.

This text is a comprehensive, highly detailed work focused entirely on the practice of interventional radiology. Included are indications, equipment, techniques, and problems that may be encountered in doing virtually any of the imaging-guided interventional procedures. The book primarily is designed for the practicing interventional radiologist, although many of the chapters would be of interest to some of the referring subspecialists. The chapter addressing the mechanism and technique for angioplasty and the chapter on thrombolysis relate directly to the clinical practice of the vascular surgeon. Chapters on percutaneous nephrostomy, ureteral stent placement, and treating varicoceles would interest urologists. Chapters on managing gastrointestinal bleeding and treating pancreatic and hepatobiliary pathology are of value to the gastroenterologist. Chapters on needle biopsy and abscess drainage serve the general surgeon well.

The opening chapter briefly examines interventional radiology from an historical perspective and discusses the future of the subspecialty. The second chapter deals with the important issue of radiation protection when doing interventional techniques. The remaining 29 chapters are generally excellent. Very little is overlooked. Throughout the text there are quality radiographic images and some well chosen histologic sections to illustrate the effects of various therapeutic techniques. A major strength of the book is its liberal use of excellent schematic representations of the techniques described, which facilitates understanding them. The book also includes important information regarding complications and potential pitfalls of various procedures, as well as pre- and postprocedural care for the patient.

Although the text is very broad in scope, some areas are only briefly covered. The section on laser angioplasty is merely an overview, reflecting the development of this technology over the last few years. Similarly, there are no sections about atherectomy or endovascular stents, for the same reason. With the exception of one chapter on treating hepatocellular carcinoma, there is little on the subject of regional therapy for neoplasms. Also lacking are discussions of diagnosing and treating vasospastic disorders of the extremities and gastrointestinal tract, epistaxis, and impotence.

Nonetheless, even considering a few shortcomings, this text is excellent and a notable contribution to the medical literature as a reference source primarily designed for the practicing interventional radiologist.

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